NEWS RELEASE

MATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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NEBRASKA JUNE 1 WHEAT PRODUCTION FORECAST LOWER

LINCOLN, Neb., June 10, 2005 -- Based on June 1 conditions, Nebraska's 2005 winter wheat crop is forecast at 73.1 million bushels, down 4 percent from a month ago but up 20 percent from last year's crop, according to the USDA's Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Average yield is forecast at 43 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from last month but 6 bushels greater than last year and 3 bushels above the ten-year average.

Acreage to be harvested for grain is estimated at 1.70 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 50,000 acres from last year. In the major wheat growing areas, as of May 29, topsoil moisture supplies were rated mostly adequate with subsoil moisture supplies mostly adequate to short. Wheat crop condition was rated 39 percent good or excellent with development at a near normal pace of 64 percent headed. Insect pressure has been light, however, wheat diseases were impacting some fields.

Mark Harris, Director of Nebraska Ag Statistics Service, noted that "Above normal head counts coupled with precipitation at the end of May were expected to boost the 2005 crop yield above year ago levels."

Access the National publication for this release at: http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/nassr/field/pcp-bb/2005/crop0605.pdf